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(c). freezing the fully-cooked, boned pork product at a third station.

6. (Amended) The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of transporting the product from the first cooking station to the second cooking station.

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7. (Amended) The method of claim 6 further comprising the step of transporting the product from the second cooking station to the third station.

Please add the following new claims 8-15:

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8. (New) The method of claim 7 wherein said step of applying radiant infrared heat to the boned pork product is accomplished using a radiant heat searing oven.

9. (New) The method of claim 8 wherein the radiant infrared heat which is applied to the boned pork product by said radiant heat searing oven is approximately 1500°F.

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10. (New) The method of claim 8 wherein said step of transporting the product from the first cooking station to the second cooking station is accomplished using a first conveyor belt.

11. (New) The method of claim 10 wherein said step of transporting the product from the second cooking station to the third cooking station is accomplished using a second conveyor belt.

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cont

12. (New) The method of claim 11 wherein said step of applying steam to the boned pork product is accomplished using at least one steam cooker.

13. (New) The method of claim 12 wherein said at least one steam cooker comprises a continuously-driven belt for transporting the product through said at least one steam cooker.

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14. (New) The method of claim 13 wherein said first conveyor belt is disposed through said radiant heat searing oven and terminates into said at least one steam cooker.

15. (New) The method of claim 14 wherein said first conveyor belt is continuously driven to transport the boned pork product into said radiant heat searing oven, through said radiant heat searing oven and into said at least one steam cooker.

Please cancel claims 1-4 without prejudice.

REMARKS

The references cited by the Examiner in the rejections of the claims along with the Examiner's comments have been diligently studied. Reconsideration of the application in light of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 5-7 have been amended. Claims 1-4 have been canceled. New claims 8-15 have been added. Therefore, claims 5-15 are under active consideration.